

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 24, 1845.

It is not in my power to give you a correct idea of the disorganized condition of the Locofoco party in this quarter; and this remark is alike applicable to the interior of the State and this city. We are now within ten or twelve days of our general election, and the self-styled "harmonious" democracy have not yet agreed, in committee, on the candidates to be presented at Tammany Hall for the approbation of the people. The Whig party, without difficulty, selected and have some time since published the names of their candidates in the journals of the city.

With such a statement of facts before the community, the conclusion would seem to be irresistible that the Whigs must succeed in electing their ticket. Yet the conclusion would be erroneous. We shall be defeated, and defeated by Whigs. The Native American party have enlisted in its ranks some three or four thousand as sound Whigs as are to be found in our country. They have suffered so much by fraudulent foreign voters, that I verily believe they never can be reconciled until something is done, either by a registry act, or otherwise, to prevent alien votes from controlling our elections. As to the ridiculous and visionary notions which the Native party are attempting to propagate, they are of no avail, and would not keep the party together one month after the great cause of discontent was removed. But no compromise or arrangement can now be made, and defeat must follow. Whether wiser counsels will hereafter prevail, I pretend not to judge.

This detail is given that our friends at a distance may not have awakened in their bosoms expectation and hopes that cannot, will not be realized. In the country our prospects are certainly better; but, even there, I cannot indulge in the same sanguine hopes which many intelligent Whigs entertain. Some think we are to be benefited by anti-slavery; I do not; and, if we are, I shall regret it, for, of all the *isms*, I think it, with the exception of *abolitionism*, the most profligate.

A late Montreal paper contains an official medical notice, stating that "the afflicting malady under which his excellency the Governor General (MERCAL) has been laboring for a number of years, and which has slowly and almost imperceptibly been producing a morbid alteration in the cheek, has within the last ten days assumed a phageneic character, by which a portion of the soft parts of the cheek have been destroyed. The violence of the action, in a great measure, yielded for a day or two, but has not yet subsided."

The Eastern (Portland) Argus says, "A letter, about as big as a quarter of a dollar, went through the Portland post office yesterday, directed to 'President Polk, White House, Washington, in haste.' Something terrible has happened. Look out for an explosion!"

OCTOBER 25.

Well, "the mountain in labor has brought forth a mouse." After a severe and long-continued struggle the Locofoco party have agreed, in committee, upon an Assembly ticket and Register for this city. The next step, "according to ancient usage," will be to ratify and confirm this nomination by a general meeting at Tammany Hall. It will then be what is termed "the regular ticket," and to the support of which all orthodox self-styled Democrats are solemnly pledged. Whether a portion of the defeated and discontented whigs or will not deem it expedient to oppose any of the candidates at the Tammany Hall meeting, I am not advised; but I suppose not, as the act would be *sedition*, if not *treason* against the party.

In the nomination of the Assembly ticket, the "Old Hunkers" claim, and I believe correctly, a triumph. They have certainly a majority of the whole ticket, while the "Baraburners" and the "Young Democracy" divide the balance. I offer you no opinion as to the character of the gentlemen nominated, except to remark that they are generally of the most humble order in point of intellect. A Locofoco said to me this morning: "It is the worst ticket ever nominated in this city by any party."

But, while the "Old Hunkers" have triumphed in the selection of the Assembly ticket, they have been defeated in the nomination of "Register," the only office of emolument. The candidate from "Hunkerdom" was a Mr. WESTERVELT, and he, it was confidently believed and asserted, would be designated. But the Custom-house, or rather, Mr. BOARDS, the Assistant Collector, determined that it should be otherwise, and so the Convention decided. The fortunate man upon whom the choice fell was a Mr. OSOON, a native of this city.

Of Mr. Osgood I know nothing; but he is said to be a worthy young man, and a dutiful child, having contributed affectionately to the comfort and support of his mother. He is the grandson of SAMUEL OSOON, a Revolutionary Whig, and subsequently naval officer of the port of New York, appointed by Mr. JEFFERSON, I think in the year 1802. While I give you this reminiscence, I may as well give you another of more recent date. Some six or eight years ago Mr. OSOON was a candidate for office before the Locofoco committee, and was defeated; whereupon he raised the standard of rebellion, and presented himself before the people as a "stump candidate." He was defeated, and with him the party. The division which he produced, it was said at the time, secured a Whig triumph. Whether this incident will be forgotten, or be permitted to pass unnoticed at the approaching election, time will develop.

OCTOBER 27.

While employed in referring to the dissensions in the camp of our political opponents, I have neglected to notice the proposed Convention to revise and amend our State Constitution. During the last session of our Legislature a law passed directing that the question should be submitted to the people on the first Tuesday in November—"Convention" or "No Convention?"

A large majority, as I believe, of both political parties are in favor of the proposed measure. But, as frequently happens in such cases, the minority are, perhaps, the most obstinate and determined, and they therefore may create some difficulty, but can do no injury to the Whigs, because we shall be defeated in this city without reference to this subject.

I am one of the minority, but I deem it idle, or worse than idle, to join in the clamor against the Convention, because it will be carried, in my opinion, by an overwhelming majority. I shall vote against it, because I fear, in the present state of society, every conservative principle in the Constitution will be prostrated and trodden under foot. Nor is this all. The Abolition party is destined again to wound severely the Whig party. They are for the Convention; and why? Because their great and darling object is to introduce such an amendment into the Constitution as will give to the blacks the same rights of suffrage as are now enjoyed by the whites. This will increase the number of abolition votes in the State of New York between fifteen and twenty thousand. To accomplish this object, the Convention will become a scene of intrigue—"log-rolling" and bargaining will be the order of the day. Every wild and visionary and leveling scheme will receive the Abolition votes, provided these schemes will support the Abolition project. All these apprehended dangers would be avoided by pursuing the mode of amending the Constitution that is provided in the instrument itself.

A meeting of the Whigs will be held to-morrow evening to approve or disapprove of the nominations made by their General Committee. An ad-

dress or resolutions, or both, will be offered by the committee. A majority of them being favorable to the Convention, will wish to express their views, and the minority will probably oppose such address or resolutions. If this is done good humoredly, by a simple negative vote, no unkind feelings will follow; but, if angry discussions ensue, it is impossible to say where or when they will terminate.

OCTOBER 28.

The steamship Great Western arrived at Sandy Hook early last evening, and this morning opposite the city. Her news is not important, except so far as it respects the situation of Europe from the want of food. Flour had taken a further but not great rise in Great Britain. The prospect for the crop not already taken in was unfavorable; but England will not suffer for bread, unless, indeed, her export trade should produce that suffering.

On the Continent, if private advices are to be relied upon, the aspect is appalling. Excitement of a revolutionary character is threatened in every direction. The visionary schemes of political as well as religious fanatics is menacing the peace of the continental Governments; but if to these be added hunger and starvation among the laboring classes, what direful consequences may we not apprehend? I shrink from a close examination of the picture.

Our Canadian neighbors appear to have caught the railroad fever. They are ardently engaged in a project to establish a railroad from Halifax to Quebec. The extent of the contemplated road is six hundred miles. The estimated cost varies from £3,500,000 to £5,000,000 sterling, or, in round numbers, from fifteen millions to twenty-two millions of dollars.

A numerous and highly respectable meeting was held in the city of Quebec on the 23d of October, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of this road. The mayor of the city was elected to the chair, who made some appropriate and judicious remarks. After which several gentlemen addressed the meeting and presented resolutions, which appear to have been adopted with great unanimity and zeal. There is both good sense and truth in their third resolution, and is probably intended as an appeal to the British Government. It is as follows:

Resolved, That the proposed railway, besides facilitating commercial intercourse, will have an important effect in adding to the security of the provinces as a part of the British empire; it is therefore desirable that the line be laid out by scientific men of established character, as speedily as possible, with the concurrence of the Imperial Government.

OCTOBER 29.

Last evening the Whig party, pursuant to public notice, convened in Canal street. It was understood that the meeting would occupy the large room in National Hall; but that being previously engaged, the weather mild, the night fine, and the street as wide as your Pennsylvania avenue, it was promptly decided to hold the meeting immediately opposite the Hall. The necessary stages were erected; and a band of music being in attendance, they served to enliven the scene.

During the last two or three weeks I have entertained apprehensions that a storm was gathering in the Whig ranks, already sufficiently thinned by puerile dissensions; but I consoled myself with the reflection that it never could come at a better time, as no important principle was to be settled at this election—a distinguished public station to be filled. Besides, I had brought myself to the conclusion that the Whig party in the city of New York were destined to be defeated.

The meeting was numerously attended, and organized by the appointment of PHILIP HOWE, Esq., as Chairman, and a suitable number of respectable citizens as Vice Presidents and Secretaries. The various journals of the day will give you an account of the proceedings in their own way, and according to their own taste.

After the address was read, on the question to approve, the confusion commenced. The address, as originally written by Mr. GREENEY, contained some objectionable features. These, with one exception, were stricken out in committee. That which was retained related to Texas, and expressed the opinion that the Whig party should continue their opposition to annexation, &c.

Col. WEBB, of the Courier and Enquirer, moved that all that portion which related to Texas should be expunged, and enforced his motion with some able arguments. Mr. GREENEY defended the address as it stood, and said the Whigs, if they acted consistently, must continue to oppose annexation, &c.

Mr. J. BROOKS, of the Express, sustained, with great ardor, the motion to expunge. After much confusion and clamor, the motion to expunge was put, and the Chairman said that the voices were nearly equal that he could not decide. With due deference to the Chairman, allow me to say that I voted in the affirmative, and was, in controversy beaten, but not so much as at one time I anticipated.

The question subsequently assumed various aspects, and several votes were taken, or attempted to be taken, in all of which I found myself in a minority. At length, by compromise, the meeting was adjourned without a formal approval of the address.

This morning a meeting was held in the Society Library, of the claimants on the American Government for French pelicans on our commerce prior to 1800. GEORGE GRISWOLD, Esq. was called to the chair. THEODORE SEDGWICK, Mr. BROOKS, of Boston, Mr. BARBON, of Maryland, Mr. MURRAY, of New York, and Mr. BAYARD addressed the meeting.

Mr. BAYARD, as chairman of a committee, reported an address and memorial to Congress, which were adopted. The former is an elaborate argument in favor of the claims. The latter is a more condensed document.

FLETCHER WEBSTER, Esq., son of DANIEL WEBSTER, is to deliver this evening the first of two lectures which he is to deliver on China.

OCTOBER 30.

Our quid nuncs are on tiptoe to learn truly what is to be said by the President in relation to Oregon, the Tariff, &c. There is also some curiosity as to the printer for Congress. Madam Rumor gives us to understand that the "Old Hunkers" have recently had a representative of their feelings and interests in Washington; that this plenipotentiary had a long and, in some measure, satisfactory interview with President POLK; that the result of the mission was a firm persuasion that the West would be conciliated by strong declarations of the Executive that nothing short of the whole of the Oregon territory would meet his demands and expectations; that the Union would have the public printing, and that the Northern (particularly the New Yorkers) Locofocos might, if they deemed it expedient, vote for a protection Tariff, without impairing in any degree their political influence with the Administration. The friends of Judge OLIVER, of Yates county, who reside in this city, claim for him some credit for the prudence with which he is said to have closed his mission.

The high opinion which the Tariff friends of Mr. BUCHANAN entertained for him is rapidly changing. They consider him as abandoning them in the hour of trial. They quote with some warmth the declaration that "Mr. Polk is as good a Tariff man as Mr. Clay." They charge him with the want of firmness in consenting to be elbowed out of the Cabinet, and laid up on the bench of the Supreme Court for the remainder of his days.

A CALM OBSERVER.

EDITORS' CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM A SOJOURNER IN THE WEST.

CINCINNATI, OCTOBER 16, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR: When we parted I promised to drop you a line or two from beyond the mountains, and promise given must be fulfilled. I had heard many praises bestowed upon the National road, but I received them as I do most travellers' stories, with certain grains of allowance; but I cannot say, with the Queen of Sheba, "the half had not been told me." Its smoothness and solidity, the excellence of the stages, teams, and drivers, and its picturesque course over hill and valley, mountain and river, with the rich and ever-varying prospects it commands, far exceeded all my anticipations. As to the railroad which leads you to Cumberland, I was perhaps in too good a humor to form a very exact judgment; for, sooth to say, my eye was so constantly busied with the busy and interesting objects all along the banks of the Patuxco, the constant succession of mills and factories, storehouses, and water hamlets up to and beyond Harper's Ferry; then with the meanderings of the upper Potomac, the magnificent scenery of that most interesting spot, and the mountain views all the way up to Cumberland, that had the cars been ever so narrow, inconvenient, and noisy, I should have had no leisure to feel the discomfort of the vehicle. To me they seemed very comfortable; and certainly their progress was, for the most part, quite rapid, often rising to twenty and twenty-five miles an hour. The meals at the Relay House, Harper's Ferry, and Frostburg were good; but we had not much time to prolong conversation over the dinner: wines there were none on the table, and I believe little was taken at the bars. In fact the wholesome influence of the temperance reform is nowhere more conspicuous than in travelling. At Cumberland all was hurry and bustle. Enormous piles of baggage and hosts of passengers were contended for by what I took to be rival and opposing agents, who assailed us with cries of "I'll take your tickets, sir—give me your tickets, sir: this is the line," &c. I afterwards found that this was a *route de guerre*, both agents belonging to the same office. Another novelty encountered me here: all the baggage had to be weighed, a tedious and troublesome process, which delays your outset for the mountains. But I was told it had become necessary in consequence of former abuses, merchants travelling Westward having multiplied their trunks and stuffed them with dry goods. To correct this evil, each traveller is now allowed but fifty pounds weight of baggage; the weight is chalked on each trunk, and all exceeding that amount is charged for as "extra baggage," at I think four cents a pound. Happily I had no extra to pay, my trunks being of the legitimate weight to half a pound, which (through magnanimity) they did not insist on charging. The process having been at length got through with, the stages drove up in succession, and thirteen of them were duly charged with travellers, nine in each coach; the drivers cracked their whips, and off we went at a round trot into a deep valley and over a wild cascade, previously to commencing our uphill walk, which continued, with little intermission, till past midnight. There was no moon; but the heavens were bright with stars, more than one planet deigning to light us on our mountain way; while within, we were too closely packed to feel much the coolness of the night air, the rumble of the wheels being often lost in the voice of song and glees and merry choruses, interspersed with bursts of merrier laughter as some good anecdote was happily told. Thus the night passed cheerily over us, and the reddening dawn broke over fine alpine scenery, though happily without the glaciers. The presence of so admirable a road through the desolates and ascents of so lofty and wild a region, rendered one of Bonaparte's road over the Simplon, and we could better realize how great an acquisition that vast work must have been to European travellers doomed to cross the till then almost impassable barriers of Italy. We declined going on to Wheeling, having had quite enough with one night's ride, without wishing to encounter another day and night without stopping. We therefore halted at Baysville, a small town situated at the point where the national road crosses the Monongahela. It is rather a begrimed looking place, partaking, as do more or less, all the towns in this region, of the sombre hue produced by the universal consumption of a very dirty coal. The Monongahela, one of the twin sources of the Ohio, is a wild romantic stream, winding through woody hills, the body of which would seem to consist of almost solid coal. For, as your little fairy frigate glides along the glassy current, you see, from point to point on either hand, the dark moorings of black caverns excavated from the bank, the opening being often so small as not to admit a man upright, from which quantities of coal in fragments descend toward the water, which they sometimes reach, where the mine lies on a high level, by means of wooden troughs conducted down the bank, or little railroads of wood, traved by a diminutive car, having a movable bottom falling with a hinge, through which the sooty looking mineral is dropped into boats or flats, constructed of boards, which lie waiting to receive it. Such black openings occur every here and there, at short distances apart, all the way down to Pittsburgh; and on the Alleghany, the sister source of the Ohio, they occur in like manner. These coal pits furnish occupation and bread to a large population, whose little huts, perched on the steep bank, and having no cultivated grounds around them, often provoke from travellers the natural inquiry, "How do these people live?" They live by digging out this coal, and selling it to others who hammer a frame of boards together and float it down to Pittsburgh and the cities along the Ohio. At Pittsburgh it is furnished to the boats as low as two cents and a half the bushel, and it is laid down at your door, in smaller quantities, at six cents. As you descend the river the supply becomes scarcer, and the price gradually rises to eight, and nine, and ten cents, which, I believe, is now the price at Louisville. The banks of the Monongahela present the most beautiful views a painter could desire to gaze upon, not being exceeded, in ever-varying and impressive combinations of all the lesser elements of landscape scenery, even by the romantic Patuxco itself. Our captain was very civil and communicative, and we were constantly congratulating ourselves that we had escaped the long and wearisome ride to Wheeling.

We reached Pittsburgh at dark, and found excellent accommodations at that well-conducted hotel, the United States Exchange. Early next morning I sallied forth to view the ravages of the great fire. I expected to see nearly a third of the place still in ruins, with here and there new houses and stores rising out of the waste. But how agreeable was my disappointment; scarce a chasm is left. You mark the boundaries of the conflagration, not by nodding walls, and blackened beams, and yawning cellars, but chiefly by the brighter and newer aspect of brick-work, most of which has reached and the residue is fast approaching its completion. True, there still remain occasional openings, sufficient to show what a heart-rending scene of dilapidation must have been presented the morning after the fire. But, speaking in general terms, it may be said that Pittsburgh is rebuilt. True, the streets are encumbered still with masses of rubbish and piles of brick and timber, so that in some places the carts and wagons have rather difficult passage through so many obstacles; but these are fast disappearing, the mere task of removing rubbish, and cleansing and piling brick, which formerly were in the now prostrate walls, supplies in itself a multitude of poor people, who were themselves burnt out, with bread for themselves and their children. A few of the board shanties, erected at the time of

the fire for the outcast poor, are still standing; but so timely was the relief afforded them, so promptly did it come flowing in from all quarters of the Christian land, and so judiciously was it applied, that this class of persons, instead of experiencing that extreme of privation which would have attended a similar calamity in most European cities, have, on the whole, rather been gainers by the catastrophe. The money received, were divided among four classes of sufferers: the first, and by far the largest, consisted of those whose property, destroyed by the fire, and constituting their only dependence, was worth less than one hundred dollars. This class was by far the most numerous, and absorbed, indeed, the great body of the public donations. They were repaid their entire loss. The next class went, I think, as high as two hundred and fifty dollars, and these received a large per cent. The two remaining classes embraced small business-men and those of larger means: many of the latter, however, who were entitled to their quota, refusing to receive it, that more might be left for those less able to bear their losses. In addition to this large relief was extended by the wealthier citizens to meet the immediate necessities of the destitute, in the shape both of food and clothing; and then almost immediately followed an ample amount of work as laborers in the erection of new buildings. The whole exhibition of American character, as displayed in the ready and open-handed charity of the neighboring towns and the more remote cities of the Union; the zealous humanity exhibited on the spot and at the moment in receiving and succoring the burnt-out families, the equity and magnanimity so conspicuous in the division of the public donations, and the astonishing energy, promptitude, courage, and enterprise which has rebuilt the city in so brief a period, without the occurrence of a single mercantile failure, all redound to the lasting honor of our country. The entire water-front is built up with noble stores and warehouses, of brick, in one unbroken line along the river, inasmuch that a stranger, standing on the water-side, would never suspect, and can even now scarcely realize, that along that extensive line not a building was left standing. The piers of the Monongahela bridge stand like islands in the stream, and already the brick-work for sustaining the chain-work of the new suspension-bridge, which is to occupy the place of the former wooden structure, begin to tower up to view, giving the assurance that in a very short time the loss, so much deplored at the time, will be converted into a public benefit.

Designing to descend the Ohio, we were recommended to a new packet-boat of large dimensions, named the Monongahela, and, on going on board of her, we found a richly finished cabin, two hundred feet in length, lined on either side with convenient state-rooms, containing each a double berth, washstand, mirror, and every accommodation requisite to the comfort of a traveller. The captain was obliging, the table abundant, the attendance good, and though we had nearly two hundred passengers, all were orderly and perfectly harmonious, well clad and well behaved. The bar (called out of modesty the "Exchange") was but little frequented; and I saw not a man who seemed the worse for liquor. One thing occasioned surprise and regret: the apparatus for meals was scarcely over, and the long tables shut up into more convenient dimensions, than they were surrounded by parties of card-players; playing in general, however, for small sums. This occupation seemed quite to absorb them, morning, noon, and evening—for they were not allowed to continue their occupation after ten at night. They were once routed, for a short time, by parties of donors, who, availing themselves of the accidental presence of a dancing-master with his violin, stood up for cotillions, and beat out a little of the dust of the carpet with their moving feet. As some of these were the gamblers themselves, they had some difficulty in inducing the fairer portion of our travellers to leave the ladies' cabin and take part in the sport. But, one or two having been prevailed on to break the ice, the inspiring notes of the fiddle drew them, one after another, from their cozy retirement, and, before the dance closed, it was tolerably supplied with real ladies in place of those he-recreators who had before acted as ladies *pro tem*. Our master of the ceremony was quite in his element; his bow moved with spirit and much energy, while he issued his directions in the authoritative tones of a commanding officer: "Set to your lady;—chassé to the right; half right and left; back to your place," &c.; occasionally reminding a huge-limbed settler from Arkansas, "remember, you are a lady, sir." I was surprised at the lowliness of the fare on a line of packets so expensively gotten up: we were charged but five dollars to Cincinnati, a distance of four hundred and seventy miles, meals included. What do not the inhabitants of the banks of the Ohio owe to the genius of FULTON; and what emotions would possess the bosom of that truly philosophic man, could he now witness the results of his labors, not only on the face of his own country, but in the condition of the entire world? Apart from the influence of Christianity, what else has ever exerted such an agency on the condition of the human race? On all these Western waters not a sail is seen; nothing in all directions but the towering of masts, the dash of wheels, and the gleaming of funnels amidst leafy solitudes, which, but for ROBERT FULTON, might have lain, for centuries to come, in their primeval stillness.

ENORMOUS TAKE OF WHALES.

LEWIS, SEPTEMBER 22.—On Thursday last an immense body of whales visited Quendall bay, and were received with every demonstration of rejoicing. The moment the cry of "whales coming," was heard, one general and simultaneous rush towards the bay was made by the inhabitants. Boats were manned, axes shouldered, harpoons handled, knives laid hold of, old pick-axes, shovels, spades, pokers, hammers, and every other available lethal weapon being in requisition. Plash went the oars—the excited rowers dashed through the water, the sea was made by the inhabitants. What an animating sight! The dealing of deadly blows, the rubbing in of the ponderous shoal, and the dying throes of the expiring monsters, all united in an inconceivable harmony to add to the intensity of interest felt on the occasion. For two hours the deadly combat lasted: at last one loud and long shout of victory was raised from the triumphing Zealanders, who were seen to be victorious. What a scene! What a capture and what a scene! No language can portray it, and, therefore, to attempt a description were needless. Not one escaped—all lay in one heap of slain. Some of the young men, when chasing the shoal into shallow water, actually left their boats and sat astride the animals, riding them to the shore. The history of the whale-capture in Zealand does not afford an instance of such an extensive capture in such an incredibly short period of time. A handsome sum is expected to be realized by the captors as the reward of their labors.

John A. Grant Journal.

The entire safety fund of Vermont has been swept off by a decision of a case by the Chancellor a few days since, at the suit of several plaintiffs, who hold that fund responsible for the bills of the Essex County Bank, of Guildhall, Vermont. The decision affected claims to the amount of about \$40,000.

A celebrated pickpocket who was lately sent to the New York State prison for his misdeeds, being noted for his marvellous adroitness in pocket-lifting, was requested to reveal the secret of his success, when the following, among other disclosures, were made: "I am as likely to be useful to those who are willing to take a hint.—*Tribune*."

"I never," said the pickpocket, "attempt the pocket of any old resident of a city, but uniformly strangers and countrymen." But on being asked how he distinguished them, he replied "very easily," and gave the following list of persons who were the regular victims of the "craft."

"Persons in an omnibus who take out their pocket-books after the stage stops are sure to be countrymen. Those who stop to converse on the sidewalk are in thoroughfare; or who take out pocket-books at the box or pit offices of theatres or steamboat offices. All those who stop to gaze at shop windows, or count money, or show pocket-books in the street, or call in at the Bank Auction-rooms. All these," said he, "are one common victims."

"If I find a man eating oysters or fruit, or carrying an open knife in the street, in nine times out of ten he is green, and we cut him down as he is likely to be in the street, or stand on cross-walks, are generally country folks, and we make sure of them."

FROM OUR EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, OCTOBER 7, 1845.

Within the week since the date of my last letter by the Cunard steamer, we have had foreign advices which occasion strong and diffusive sensation.

It was hoped that the anniversary of the King's birth, (yesterday,) for the celebration of which the members of the Royal family—the King and Queen of Belgium included—met at St. Cloud, would be a festival of satisfaction without a cloud. But it was overcast in a manner by the disaster in Algeria—the destruction of four hundred and fifty French troops by ABD-EL-KADER—of which I send you the chief details. The stratagem of the Emir is called odious, atrocious, and so forth; but, as Marshal SOULT said of the suffocation of the Arabs at Dahra, such is the very nature of the war. Of course, severe blame is cast on the Government by the Opposition journals for the Arab revolts and successes. The cry was instantly raised that war with the Emperor of Morocco should be renewed, unless he facilitated or aided, in every mode possible for him, the pursuit of ABD-EL-KADER, wherever in his empire the indefatigable for established headquarters or took refuge. You have received my anticipation that Marshal BUGEAUD would soon be called back to Algeria, and his presence proved indispensable by the exigencies of the contest. This has been verified, probably beyond his own prescience. Yesterday evening Paris was startled by this paragraph:

"A Council of Ministers was held this morning at Saint Cloud. The King has ordered that six regiments of infantry and two regiments of cavalry shall embark immediately for the province of Oran, in Algeria, to which the Marshal Duke d'Alger will receive orders to return immediately."

Eight regiments make twelve thousand men, to be added to an army consisting already of more than eighty thousand. Four of the columns of the *Journal des Débats* of this day are allotted to the subject. The leading article is a sort of manifesto against the Emperor of Morocco; it is reminded of his treaty stipulations to expel ABD-EL-KADER; it is admitted that he may not be able to fulfill it alone; but he must allow the attempt to be made by this body of twelve thousand fresh troops, whose special errand is unlimited force to the Emir, and vengeance for the bloody ambushes. *La Presse* notes that Algeria has cost France a hundred thousand men and eight hundred millions of francs; and that each year adds a hundred millions more, and at least fifteen thousand soldiers, who are killed in expeditions or die in the hospitals. *Le Commerce* observes:

"There is not a single bulletin of victory in which the Duke d'Alger has not announced the definitive submission of the Arabs and the pacification of Algeria; and yet insurrections do not cease succeeding each other, and the whole is to be recommenced each time. He represented, some weeks since, the horrible condition of the Dahra as being about to put an end to insurrections, by striking the tribes with an anathema, and now a new taking up of arms again contradicts his anticipations; far from terrifying the Arabs, these cruelties only excite them to vengeance, and the massacre of M. Montagnac's troops, perhaps, only an act of reprisal. Colonization gets on no better than war, the Government is for one system and M. Bugeaud for another. During all this time nothing has been done, and throughout this vast territory we scarcely reckon six thousand colonists."

The National is still more severe:

"Either the Ministry has lost its senses, or the situation of our affairs in Africa is far graver than the facts now known represent it. In order for it to be thought indispensable to augment with eight regiments the army of Africa, already so numerous, and to send M. Bugeaud to Algeria, the Government's power must necessarily be threatened with some formidable peril. What, then, is really going on? Has Abd-el-Kader defied Muley Abderrahman? Does he demand at present with full authority of all the forces of Morocco? Or has the Moor, aware by the events of last year, that France may be laughed at with impunity, again left the Emir the open aid of the forces of the empire? If such be the case, why is the Ministry so unaccountably silent? Here it has been aware for some days of this information, and it has communicated nothing of it to the country. As to the sudden return of M. Bugeaud, we do not, we think, form a very rash judgment in declaring that it is a measure far more of a political than a military character. In a military sense, Algeria can perfectly well do without M. Bugeaud. General Lamorinière and General Cavaignac are more than sufficient for the difficulties of the situation. Let M. Bugeaud go. Bugeaud has so imperially concentrated in Kabylia by placed at their disposal, and they will force Abd-el-Kader to again evacuate Algeria. But the object is to produce in France a great moral effect. M. Bugeaud is the Marshal of the dynasty; he will be the sword of the future regency, and he must be upheld in men's opinions, against any one he must be represented as indispensable—without whom all is danger. This is the reason why he is despatched against a peril, perhaps already overcome, and which, at all events, he, as commander-in-chief, knew neither how to anticipate nor foresee."

The other most exciting intelligence comes from Italy. A revolution was really undertaken in the Roman States. You will see the accounts of what passed at Rimini and Ravenna, cities of the highest historical and archeological interest. Considering the neighborhood of the Austrians, the vigilance and forces of the Italian Governments, and the dispositions of the French Cabinet, it was the utmost folly in the contrivers and agents of the insurrection to expect any material or permanent success. Exile renders desperate, passion blinds, and the habit of plotting impels the greater number of Italian and Spanish political refugees. In France, the police spies into their schemes, and denounces them to the authorities abroad against whom those schemes are levelled. That the garrison at Rimini could be seduced, is a serious circumstance for the Holy See; the Swiss mercenaries were the most loyal and efficient, as in days of yore. Certain promises of administrative reform and political enfranchisement are affirmed to have been solemnly given by the Court of Rome in 1831: the answer to reproaches of bad faith is, "Your perpetual consuls," "racies, risings, disorders of every kind, have frustrated our good intentions." The civil and political rule in the hands of a clergy entirely paramount forms the chief and intolerable grievance for Liberales; that the Pope could at all trust any others than ecclesiastical dignitaries as generals, judges, or administrators, might be doubted. The temporal government is essentially clerical. It has withstood many a powerful assault, many suspensions, imperial conquests, and edicts; whether it can finally resist what is called the spirit of this age remains a problem. Austria and France may intend to procure some modifications. CAVOUR, an exile, from Bologna, formerly a lawyer, and Prefect of Arcore in 1831, under the so-called Government of Central Italy, has issued here a considerable pamphlet, ably written, on the griefs of his country. A series of essays on the same theme, by MAZZINI, has appeared in *La Revue Indépendante*. These publications coincide with the outbreaks. We have, besides, a new, elaborate, and specious tract on the monarchical and national legitimacy of Queen ISABEL of Spain, with the conclusion that, she being now evidently "the sole anchor of safety for the monarchical principle in Spain," no power of Europe should longer hesitate to recognise the said legitimacy.

The Algeria and Morocco affair will supplant in the journals that of Madagascar. On Sunday last the *Epoch*, formerly the semi-official *Globe*, expressed its belief in the report of an expedition to the island, to be commanded by the Prince of JOINTVILLE. The nice point was, shall the British be allowed to co-operate in punishing and subduing the Novas and their Queen? It is observed by the London Spectator of the 4th instant, "Had England bestirred herself years ago, in the time of Radama, the magnificent island might have been annexed to Mauritius. As to the possession of such lands, in the East, by some European Power, that is inevitable and right."

You have been supplied with specimens of the London editorial doctrine concerning the absorption of the Punjab into British India. There is nearly a chorus for this measure. The population of the Punjab has been reckoned at about five millions by European travellers, and by the natives at considerably more: it has a comparatively fertile soil and salubrious climate; superior manufactures of silk, cottons, muslins, shawls, leather, and an admirable situation, altogether, for trade. The race may be disciplined into fine soldiers and the revenue augmented to a large amount." The Morning Chronicle says:

"If we undertake the direction of political affairs in the Punjab our superintendence must extend to the tribal dependencies beyond the hills and on the right bank of the Indus. In other words, we shall be in Afghanistan again; for the Sikhs being in possession of Peshawar, which was the capital of the Duranis at the time of Mr. Elphinstone's embassy, we shall have to plant our outpost in the very jaws of the Khyber pass, within hail of the subjects of Dost Mohammed Khan."

The oracle continues: "In endeavoring to reduce the political chaos to order, Sir Henry will of course excite many outrages in both India and Europe, but it is his business to perform his duty regardless of such things. He has not sent out to give satisfaction to mock philanthropists, but to promote the interests of our Indian empire."

The editor of the Times, (4th instant,) the indignant precisian in the Texas case, writes thus about India:

"The pear hangs mellow on the tree, ready to be shaken down. So the fate of the Punjab is at last sealed. It is to be taken into subsidiary alliance, and to follow the steps of Hyderabad, and Oude, and Gwalior, and some score other British allies and tributaries, if they are so to be called. Of course the necessity of this movement is undeniable. A State which cannot govern itself must be governed by its neighbors, for the interests of humanity are at stake. Without an efficient government a territory soon becomes a public nuisance, the source of dissension and outrage, the focus of intrigue, the nursery of revolution and war. Such is the state of all that region enclosed within the Upper Indus and its tributaries. Bloody revolutions, and insolent and rebellious soldiery, a ruined and distracted people, keep Northern India in perpetual alarm. Self-preservation compels the neighbors to subvert the nuisance. Such is the necessity. It is the duty, which now devolves on that great Power which Providence has made the centre of unity and source of order to the whole peninsula. Britain, which now holds the sceptre successfully wielded by so many barbarous conquerors, is the pacifier, the unifier, in a word, the supreme governor of Hindostan. She is bound, in the name of all, to avert the common danger and to preserve the common peace."

It may be well to record, likewise, how these Pharisees of the London press, so fond of lecturing and reproving the "greedy Americans," reconcile themselves at once to the idea of the retention of Chusan. One says:

"There is an interesting discussion going forward in India relative to the island of Chusan, which now, when the time for its restoration to the Chinese is approaching, becomes of more value than ever to the British. A great unwillingness is exhibited to restore it, on the ground that the whole of the provisions of the treaty, by which the Chinese were bound to put an end to insurrections, by striking the tribes with an anathema, and now a new taking up of arms again contradicts his anticipations; far from terrifying the Arabs, these cruelties only excite them to vengeance, and the massacre of M. Montagnac's troops, perhaps, only an act of reprisal. Colonization gets on no better than war, the Government is for one system and M. Bugeaud for another. During all this time nothing has been done, and throughout this vast territory we scarcely reckon six thousand colonists."

Another communicates the notion, and follows it out in these significant terms:

"In China we are puzzled, it seems, what to do with Chusan; the period for restoring which to the Chinese has at length arrived. The Celestials, however, we are told, have not completely satisfied all the conditions of the treaty, and therefore it is not incumbent on us to relinquish the above named valuable and healthy island. If the Chinese have not fulfilled their engagement, we shall of course be fully justified in retaining possession of Chusan. Something, moreover, is whispered about the possibility of great surprise and success, if it is ascertained that what we give up they will obtain. This may not be desirable; but as the Chinese, like the Duke of Newcastle, have a right to do what they please with their own, our commercial jealousy would constitute no justification of our retaining a possession to which we were not strictly entitled. If, therefore, we keep Chusan, we must be able to prove that the Chinese have fairly forfeited it, and in this case it is to be hoped that we shall not commit the blunder of evacuating the island a second time, merely for the purpose of having to recapture it."